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expected to shed light on the origin of certain antiquarian remains now existing on Charles river, Mass., and elsewhere in America. Dr Guðmundsson is the author of a standard work on the subject, bearing the title *House Building in Iceland in Saga Times* (1898). As the head of the exploring party he selected Thorsteinn Erlingsson, who started from Copenhagen on June 1st and arrived at Reykjavík on the 11th, whence he started for the eastern districts of the island, where traveling is extremely difficult from want of good roads and owing to the lack of transportation facilities and the severity of the weather. After examining over 218 ruins, Erlingsson returned to Reykjavík on October 1st. The remains which he visited and excavated were found to be of intense interest, for many of them are over four hundred years old, and consist of long and square houses, hillside cots with pavements, mounds, *things* (open-air law-courts), and doom rings, irrigation and drainage ditches, river dams, *hithes* (harbors), shipdocks or *nausts*, grave-hills, farms, and forts. Photographing was made quite difficult owing to wind and rain; nevertheless the photographic illustrations in the volume give excellent representations of most of the objects observed and studied. It seems that from Mr Grand's résumé in French many things can be better understood than from the English rendering of the Danish original. A large map and three indexes are subjoined and make reference easy. The method adopted by Miss Horsford for comparing the antiquarian remains in New England with similar structures in Iceland, the home of the Norse discoverers of Vineland, is most praiseworthy. The present work supplements that undertaken by Miss Horsford's father, the late Prof. Eben Norton Horsford, as well as her own investigations which have borne fruit in a paper published in the *National Geographic Magazine* (1898, pp. 73-84) under the title *Dwellings of the Saga Time in Greenland, Iceland, and Vineland*. In this paper the "Saga time" of Scandinavia is estimated to begin about 875 A.D., and to end about 150 years later, for this is the period of the discovery, colonization, and early history of Iceland as well as of Scandinavia.

A. S. GATSCHE.

*Hondureñismos. Vocabulario de los provincialismos de Honduras.* Por ALBERTO MEMBREÑO. Segunda edición corregida y aumentada. Tegucigalpa: 1897. 8°, xiv, 269 pp.

The limited acquaintance which those of the outside world have of Honduras, its history, culture, and languages, makes acceptable any contribution that is likely to render knowledge concerning its interesting and diversified population. Among the two thousand words

gathered by Dr Membreño in the above-titled work, there are found Spanish terms used with significations differing from those of classic Spanish ; others are of Indian, especially Nahuatl, origin, or dialectal terms now of unknown derivation. The author often illustrates the meanings of peculiar words by presenting sentences in which they occur ; and from the number of collaborators mentioned it is apparent that the people of Honduras are taking deep interest in researches of this description. The appendix to the volume is devoted to vocabularies, each of 250 to 400 terms, of the following Indian stock languages spoken within the confines of the republic : Moreno or Carib, Zambo or Misskito, Sumo or Woolwa, Paya, Jicaque, Lenco, and Chorti. While Chorti belongs to the Maya family, Carib originally was South American and West Indian ; and Zambo, better known to Americans as Misskito, has its principal domain in eastern Nicaragua. Of the Paya no vocabulary had ever been printed prior to the present work consequently Membreño's publication, so far at least as Indian linguistics are concerned, comes as a highly agreeable surprise.

A. S. GATSCHE